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Sen. Beall Terms Handling of Otepka Inquiry Atrocious

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Sen. J. Glenn Beall (R-Md.) yesterday attacked the State Department for what he termed its "atrocious" handling of the Otto F. Otepka case.

In a speech before campaign workers in Baltimore, the Senator, who is running for reelection in the State's May 19 GOP primary, charged that Otepka was relieved of his duties because he "cooperated with a Congressional investigating committee."

Otepka, former chief security evaluator for the State Department, was fired for alleged insubordination. He has appealed.

He was suspended Sept. 23, 1963 and charged with conduct "unbecoming an officer of the Department of State" for allegedly having given classified documents to the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. He was dismissed from his post Nov. 5, when the State Department upheld the charges.

Beall said that although Otepka was relieved of all duties, he continues to draw a salary of more than \$18,200 a year. "It is apparent that Mr. Otepka is being kept on the payroll as a means of quieting members of Congress who have taken a deep interest in the case," the Senator declared.

"If the reward for coming forward and honestly telling members of the Senate and House of Representatives of wrongdoing is dismissal, something horrible has happened in our country," Beall declared.

Meanwhile a crossfire of criticism between Joseph D. Tydings and Louis L. Goldstein, Democratic candidates for the nomination to Beall's seat, continued.

Goldstein said yesterday that a statement by Tydings to the effect that only he could win in November against the Republicans served "only to damage the candidacies of President Johnson and other Democrats."

Tydings accused his opponent of "desperation" in the final stage of the campaign. In a letter to aides across the State, Tydings charged that Goldstein is "drastically downgrading the level of his campaign" in an attack "packed with distortions, half-truths, outright falsehoods and manufactured facts."

In the Fifth District Congressional race, Democratic candidate Raymond J. McDonough endorsed Tydings, praising his "independent spirit in Democratic politics." Another Democrat, Elbert M. Byrd, yesterday pledged support of home rule for the District.

In the Sixth District, Republican Harry Simms, who is challenging incumbent Rep. Charles McC. Mathias and author Brent Bozell, called Bozell "an enemy of the Republican Party."

Said Simms: "I never thought I would find myself opposing an extreme left-wing Republican Congressman and an extreme right-wing political demagogue at the same time."